

**Robert Adam to George Washington, February 14, 1774,  
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.  
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**FROM MR. ROBERT ADAM.**

ALEXANDRIA, Feby. 14th. 1774

SIR

In regard to your Design of importing Palantines into Virginia I believe it would be attended with some difficulty from severall Circumstances, they are in generall much prejudiced against coming into Virginia or Maryland as in either they are not allowed the same liberty of Conscience in enjoying their own Religion this Naturally Inclines them more to Pensilvania, as well as the Number of their Countrymen Already Settled in that Government, They are generally brought in there by Return ships that have carried Sugar or Rice to some port of Holland, And I am informed the [y] have not the same Liberty of transporting themselves they usually had, and that the same Number does not come to Pensila. that formerly did, they are brought off now as it were by Stealth, and not suffered to bring any Effects with them There are no Cargoes that can be shipped from this Country to Holld. till they are first Landed in some port of England. As many of the Glasgow ships go there with Tobo. if you intend such a plan it would be best to engage one of them to bring them out, on the best terms you could They are generally put on Board at so much a freight a full grown person makes a freight under sixteen years of age three persons make two freights and Children in proportion, the Vessels make them pay I believe about Eight pound Sterling a freight after they come into this Country but if the Money was Advanced them in Holland I suppose better might be made perhaps between 4 or 5 £ a freight, There

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would be a necessity for you to send a trusty Dutch Man or German home to engage the people & make them fully acquainted with the encouragement you intend ym. in Order to help to wipe of the generall Dissgust they have at comeing to this Country. but I should imagine the Scotch or Irish Farmers would Suit you as well & would be much easier gott in, many of them Might be gott here at this time, as they are much distressed in their own Country—I shall endeavour to inform my self better of the Palantine Trade & inform you hereafter—

There is no Currant[s] to be had in town nor D. Refined Sugar I have sent two Loaves of Single Refd. & a pe. Common Check which I suppose will Answer the purpose you intend it, the Molasses I bespoke for you some time ago is gone Mr. Henly says Mr. Washington was to Advise him in a day or two if he took it and not hearing from him disposed of it, Capt. Conway has none I can gett you a Hhd. from Mr. Hartshorn, he says very good but I have not yet seen it, There is Reasins to be gott if they will do in place of the Currants I am Respectfully

Sir Your Most Humb: Sert. ROBERT ADAM

your boy has been detained a

little as I have but just now

received the lette[r], wc. he had me mention